

The list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) A method of screening for compounds useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject in need thereof, comprising:

contacting a test compound to a probe molecule, said probe molecule selected from the group consisting of EMAP II and fragments thereof; and then

detecting the presence or absence of binding of said test compound to said probe molecule, the presence of binding indicating said compound may be useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject.

8. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 7, wherein said test compound is a member of a combinatorial library.

9. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 7, wherein said test compound is a protein or peptide.

10. (Amended) [[A]] The method of screening for compounds useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject, comprising:

contacting a test compound to probe molecule, said probe molecule selected from the group consisting of DNA encoding EMAP II, RNA encoding EMAP II, and fragments thereof; and then

detecting the presence or absence of binding of said test compound to said probe molecule, the presence of binding indicating said compound may be useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject.

11. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 10, wherein said test compound

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is a member of a combinatorial library.

12. (Amended) **[[A]]** The method according to claim 10, wherein said test compound is an oligonucleotide.

13. (Amended) **[[A]]** The method of screening for compounds useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject, comprising:

determining *in vitro* whether a test compound inhibits expression of EMAP II;
the inhibition of expression of EMAP II indicating said compound may be useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject.

14. (Amended) **[[A]]** The method according to claim 13, wherein said determining step is carried out in a cell.

15. (Amended) **[[A]]** The method according to claim 13, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits transcription of EMAP II.

16. (Amended) **[[A]]** The method according to claim 13, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits translation of EMAP II.

17-20. (Canceled)

21. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein said determining step is carried out in a cell-free preparation.